## Paperless Research by Kit Johnstone, Ph.D.

The future of humanity lies in the Internet and space; the latter for resources, the former for taking us there. The earth is running out of oil, it will eventually run out of uranium too. We need to get out and search for resources, or we end up fighting among ourselves for these. The Internet helps us work together for this aim and for others. It also helps us conserve existing resources, for example it reduces travelling.

Research is essential to help us get into space. But research itself produces a great deal of rubbish, namely paper in the name of publication. It is an irony that while we do our researches to tackle global warming we should produce such rubbish as this; published papers and books take away much trees, forests, and ultimately land.

The sad thing is that this irony is unnecessary, for we have with the Internet computers. Television is being digitised, why should we not digitise first our publishing instead of broadcasting business? Which is the more important? Less broadcasting only means less pleasure, publication could take away the earth.

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